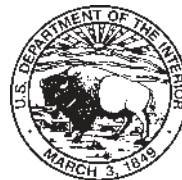


INFORMATION ABOUT:

Special Recreation Permits on Public Lands in Wyoming



U.S. Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management

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What is a special recreation permit?

Special Recreation Permits are authorizations which allow specified recreational uses on public lands and related waters. They are used to manage visitor use, protect natural and cultural resources, and to accommodate commercial recreational uses. Authorized by the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, there are five types of uses for which these permits are required: commercial, competitive, vending, individual or group uses in special areas, and organized group activity and event use.

How do I know if I need a permit?

Ask yourself the following questions:

Will your event involve public lands and/or related waters?

Are you charging a fee?

Do you expect to make money on the event or is the fee to cover expenses?

Will there be a competition?

Will you advertise?

Will you mark a course?

Will you be expecting vehicles at your event? How many?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you may need a permit from the BLM. Please contact the appropriate BLM field office personnel.

What are the types of special recreation permits?

Commercial Use – Commercial Use is defined as recreational use of public lands and related waters for business or financial gain. When any person, group or organization makes or attempts to make a profit, receive money, amortize equipment, or obtain goods or services, as compensation from participants in recreational activities occurring on public lands, the use is considered commercial.

Examples: Outfitters and guides, jeep tours, horse trail and wagon train rides, and cattle drives.

Competitive Use – Competitive Use means any organized, sanctioned, or structured use, event, or activity on public land in which two or more contestants compete and either (1) participants register, enter, or complete an application for the event, or (2) a predetermined course or area is designated.

Examples: Off-Highway Vehicle races, horse endurance rides, mountain bike races.

Vending — Vendor permits are temporary, short-term, nonexclusive, revocable authorizations to sell goods or services on public lands in conjunction with a recreation activity.

Examples: T-shirt sales in conjunction with a raft race, firewood sales in a BLM campground, and shuttle services for river users.

Special Area Use —Special Areas are areas officially designated by statute or Secretarial order.

There are no areas in Wyoming with this special designation at this time.

Organized Group Activity and Event Use — Organized group/event permits are for noncommercial and noncompetitive group activities and recreation events.

Examples: A large scout camp out, a fraternity activity, or a large family reunion.

What are BLM objectives by issuing special recreation permits?

BLM wants to satisfy recreational demand within allowable use levels in an equitable, safe, and enjoyable manner while minimizing adverse resource impacts and user conflicts. When issuing a recreation permit BLM authorizes permittees to use of the lands and/or related waters for permitted purposes. The permittee is subject to the terms and conditions of the permits.

Recreation permits are issued in conformance with existing land use plans.

Is there a fee?

Yes. Fees are charged for commercial and competitive events and may be charged for other special recreation permits. A minimum annual fee of \$80.00 is paid in advance of authorized use. Additional fees may need to be collected after the event based on the post-use report.

How do I apply for a special recreation permit?

The Special Recreation Permit application must be turned in 180 days prior to the event or activity. This lead time is necessary in order to complete paperwork and any environmental analysis that may be required. More or less time may be needed to complete work on your permit. Your application package should include the application, a map of the area of the proposed activity, any agreements or permit for use of non-BLM lands, and other pertinent information.

If you are applying for a permit for an activity that may cover more than one BLM field office area such as hunting outfitting and guiding, you need only make one application to one field office. Determine where the majority of your activity would occur and apply to the office covering that area. Contact the appropriate BLM field office for additional information.

For the nearest BLM field office, please refer to Wyoming BLM form WYNF-0007 (2/2001) "BLM Offices in Wyoming," contact the Wyoming BLM state office at 307-775-6256, or visit the Wyoming BLM website at www.wy.blm.gov.